

# McDougal's Farm LLC

What's Growing On!

April 7th, 2018

## Farm News

**The answer to your question is "YES", we are still accepting CSA sign up forms for the 2018 growing season:)**

Rain, rain, rain....went Kayaking down the river....raked lawn...planted in the kitchen garden. These are notes from last year's journal, same time last year. This last week 15 additional inches of snow fell on the farm and some nights fell below zero. This record breaking cold has all the baby transplants held prisoner in *one* greenhouse. But this week we are going to have to bust them out regardless of the cold and move them into the other two greenhouses. Like people, plants do better with a little elbow room and to be honest Jerry and I are getting tired of walking sideways through the tight aisles.

The wood pile is going down as we continue to stoke the big greenhouse. On one venture out after a heavy snow, I decided to grab the shovel and shovel my way back to the house. Seeing how it was just me, the moon and the voices in my head, I heard my Dad's voice chime in. My Dad was not a particularly religious man, defiantly not a lazy man, but always quoted the bible when it came to shoveling snow after the first of April. "The Good Lord giveth, The Good Lord can taketh it away". Never found this quote in the good book, but we are beginning to see the wisdom....we have had enough shoveling! We are hoping this weather doesn't set our season too far back, but even if it does, rest assured we'll just make it up on the other end. It's all good.

The cold and snow has also made collecting sap a real challenge for our son. It never did start running good yet but we are getting some pretty sweet sapsicles. Sugar content must be high this year. Maybe with a little luck and some sunshine, McDougal's Farm will have Maple Syrup for sale when the greenhouse opens. Let's hope. Looking forward to sunnier, muddier days!

**Remember if you are interested in signing up for the CSA, now is the time to get those sign up forms in.** Once we are in the field, the window of opportunity closes and that can come as early as mid May. The cutoff date can be earlier if we hit capacity. We still have plenty of room right now. To all of you that have already signed up, **THANK YOU! We are happy and honored to be your farmers! We will do our best to set your table with top notch veggies this summer.**

*Jerry and Maydene*

## Upcoming Events

**May 18th-20th, Friday thru Sunday 8:00am-5:00pm- McDougal's Farm Greenhouse opens for sales.** Open to the public for two- 3 day weekends only. Filled with many earthy mossy delights, rusty accents, hanging baskets and organically grown garden transplants and herbs...many of them heirloom. Love nature? Looking for unique? You will find it here, located at W10835 Bluebell Rd. Deerbrook Wi. Just 5 minutes N on Hwy 45 from Antigo to Cty Rd. B., turn west and then straight onto Bluebell Rd...see you in a mile and a half on the left.

**May 18th, Friday at 6pm, Build Your Own Herb Garden**

Enjoy a fresh brewed cup of tea or a glass of wine as we go around the large selection of herbs and talk briefly about some of the medicinal and culinary uses of herbs and introduce you to some new ones. Then you will be free to design your own herb container garden. Bring your own container, we will have a few on hand. Cost will be determined according to your container size and herb selection. Space is limited. Please call ahead

**May 20th, Sunday at 1:30, TBA**

**May 25th-27st, Friday thru Sunday 8am to 5pm-** Memorial Day weekend. **McDougal's Farm Greenhouse open for sales.** Our second weekend open to the public, good deals on selected remaining annuals. Always adding new plantings. Come see us for unique and all your garden planting transplants. Special deals Sunday 1-5pm.

**\*\*update, note change July 21st, Saturday Farm Tours- Come see your Farm!** See how we do things. Where your food comes from. Ask questions. Meet your Farmers. Tour begins in front of the big greenhouse at **1pm** and will take about 1hour and 30 minutes. Wear comfortable shoes. Maybe be rescheduled if weather is rainy. **For CSA members only.**

**NEW\*** Aug. 18th **Sustainable Farm Tour-**, McDougal's Farm LLC will be joining other sustainable farms in the area to showcase the different farming techniques and methods used in sustainable farming. You will have the opportunity to visit different types of farms, such as dairy, potato, grass fed beef, vegetable, hydroponic and an apple orchard. Tour times will be at set times throughout the day. There will be a minimal fee and tickets will be sold in advance. *NOTE: We are hoping they will be available for purchase when our greenhouse is open. We will keep you posted with any changes as this is all still in the works.*

### One more **non-farm** Sustainable event coming up

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is hosting a "**Learn How To Hunt Local Sustainable Food**", April 19th, at 6 pm at the Antigo Town Hall. Learn where and how to hunt wild ruffed grouse. There is a \$10. fee. All equipment will be provided. For more information or to register call 715-623-4190 ext.3132 or checkout the their website.